

HOUSE BILL 61

Unofficial Copy  
R1

2004 Regular Session  
4r0892

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Boschert**  
Requested: November 10, 2003  
Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2004  
Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation - State Highways - Roadside Solicitation**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from standing in a roadway, median divider,  
4 or intersection of a State highway to solicit money or donations from the  
5 occupant of a vehicle; providing that a person on whose behalf another commits  
6 a violation of this Act is also guilty of the violation; clarifying that, in certain  
7 counties, a person may not stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection of  
8 a county road to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle;  
9 defining certain terms; providing certain penalties; and generally relating to the  
10 prohibition of roadside solicitations.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 21-507  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 21-507.

20 (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
21 INDICATED.

22 (2) "COUNTY ROAD" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-101 OF THIS  
23 ARTICLE.

24 (3) "STATE HIGHWAY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-101 OF THIS  
25 ARTICLE.

1 (B) Except for the occupant of a disabled vehicle who seeks the aid of another  
2 vehicle, a person may not stand in a roadway to solicit a ride, employment, or  
3 business from the occupant of any vehicle.

4 [(b)] (C) A person may not stand on or near a highway to solicit any other  
5 person to watch or guard any vehicle while it is parked or about to be parked on a  
6 highway.

7 (D) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT STAND IN A ROADWAY, MEDIAN DIVIDER, OR  
8 INTERSECTION OF A STATE HIGHWAY TO SOLICIT MONEY OR DONATIONS OF ANY  
9 KIND FROM THE OCCUPANT OF A VEHICLE.

10 (2) A PERSON ON WHOSE BEHALF ANOTHER PERSON VIOLATES  
11 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS ALSO GUILTY OF THE VIOLATION.

12 [(c)] (E) In Charles County, Harford County, and Washington County, a  
13 person may not stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection OF A COUNTY  
14 ROAD to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

15 [(d)] (F) (1) In Prince George's County:

16 (i) A child under the age of 15 years may not stand in a roadway,  
17 median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations of any kind from the  
18 occupant of a vehicle; and

19 (ii) An adult may not cause, encourage, allow, or petition a child  
20 under the age of 15 years to stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to  
21 solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

22 (2) A child under the age of 15 years may not be found guilty or  
23 adjudicated delinquent for a violation of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection if an adult  
24 caused, encouraged, allowed, or petitioned the child in violation of paragraph (1)(ii) of  
25 this subsection.

26 (G) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF  
27 A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION:

28 (1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$500;

29 (2) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$700; AND

30 (3) FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF  
31 \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 4 CONSECUTIVE WEEKENDS NOR  
32 MORE THAN 12 CONSECUTIVE WEEKENDS OR BOTH.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 October 1, 2004.